

REMARKS

An Office Action was mailed on August 22, 2005 making a restriction requirement and requiring an election of one of the enumerated groups of invention.

By the foregoing, claims 7-11 are cancelled in order to expedite prosecution on the merits. Amendment changes are made to correct typographical errors. Thus, claims 1-6 are pending after amendment, of which claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are independent claims. As indicated below, an election is made with traverse. No new matter has been added and all amendment changes are requested to be entered.

Restriction is required to one of the following groups of inventions:

Bearing Retainer:

- a. Group I, Figures 12-15;
- b. Group II, Figures 16-17;
- c. Group III, Figures 18-20;
- d. Group IV, Figures 21-24;
- e. Group V, Figure 25;
- f. Group VI, Figure 26;
- g. Group VII, Figure 27;
- h. Group VIII, Figures 28-30;
- i. Group IX, Figures 31-33; and
- j. Group X, Figures 34-36.

Bearing Seal

- a. Group XI, Figures 37-38;
- b. Group XII, Figures 39-40;
- c. Group XIII, Figures 44-45;
- d. Group XIV, Figures 46-47; and
- e. Group XV, Figures 48-49.

Election pursuant to 37 CFR 1143

Responsive thereto, Applicant hereby elects Group I, Figures 12-15 and Group XI, Figures 37-38. Claims 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 are readable thereon and are elected for prosecution on the merits subject to traverse of the restriction requirement.

Traversal of Restriction Requirement

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement and respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that at least independent claims 1 and 2 are generic. Claims 1 and 2 are directed to a retainer for a ball bearing. Neither claim recites a bearing seal. Thus, at least these two claims read on all species identified by the Examiner and in fact do require the species of Groups XI to XV. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the restriction requirement.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for examination and ready passage to allowance, which is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for examination or allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper, including any extension fees, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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